

Application No. 09/936,145  
Paper Dated November 24, 2003  
**Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Expedited Procedure**  
**Examining Group 1600**  
Attorney Docket No. 3274-011309

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

**Listing of the Claims**

1-3 Canceled.

4. (Currently Amended): A promoter of  $\alpha$ -amylase derived from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, The promoter according to claim 3, wherein the promoter has a sequence of Sequence ID No. 1 that has a restriction site for BamHI.

5-8. Canceled.

9. (Currently Amended): An expression cassette having the promoter sequence according to claim [1] 4.

10. (Currently Amended): An expression vector, wherein a gene encoding a protein is inserted into the BamHI restriction site of the expression cassette of claim 9.

11-14. Canceled.

15. (Previously Presented): A recombinant microorganism having the expression vector according to claim 10.

16. (Previously Presented): A method for producing protein comprising the step of culturing the recombinant microorganism according to claim 15.

17-30. Canceled.

31. (New): A promoter of  $\alpha$ -amylase derived from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, wherein the promoter has a sequence of ID No. 2 that has restriction sites for BamHI, SmaI, KpnI, SacI and EcoRI in this order from 5' end.

32. (New): An expression cassette having the promoter sequence according to claim 31.

33. (New): An expression vector, wherein a gene encoding a protein is inserted into one of the restriction sites of the expression cassette of claim 32.

34. (New): A recombinant microorganism having the expression vector according to claim 33.

35. (New): A method for producing a protein comprising the step of culturing the recombinant microorganism according to claim 34.